GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1521
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2002
NEW MOBILE NUMBERING SCHEME
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has decided to shelve its new mobile numbering scheme with a `94` access level;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the private cellular operators are against the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) No, Sir.
(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) to (e): Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) had represented against the allotment of `94` Access Leveto Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). COAI had mainly contended that this was against a level playing field and will provide unfai advantage to BSNL.In a meeting with COAI, it was clarified that the allotment is on non-exclusive basis and based on the needs of other operators, they can also be permitted to start their service with access level `94`. Thus there was no unfair advantage to BSNL or disturbance of any level playing field.